

INSTITUTUM  
SERO-BACTERIOLOGICUM  
UNIVERSITATIS

HELSINKI—HELSINGFORS  
SUOMI—FINLAND

Helsinki April 13th, 1959.  
Helsingfors

Professor Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
School of Medicine  
Stanford University  
Stanford, California

Dear Professor Lederberg,

Thank you very much for your letters of March 31st and April 9th. We are planning to leave for Stanford about August 31st, probably by plane. If 1-3.9.1959 is not a suitable date of arrival for you please let me know.

I do not wish any advance payment. As a matter of fact my travel expenses will probably be paid from another funds, and the travel allowance from Public Health Service must probably be returned.

Last autumn I applied for two fellowships in order to make the award of one more certain. Both of them were, however, awarded nearly simultaneously, and my attempt to withdraw my application for the smaller one (An ASLA Research Grant) was not successful. This ASLA grant is paid beginning from August 1959 but it is not meant for families and it is for 10 months only.

For the above reason I should like to keep the Public Health Service fellowship, and if it is possible to begin its period February 28th, 1960 (last allowed date). I understand that my study program at Stanford can continue ad February 1961.

It was exciting to learn that the  $\beta$ -galactosidase of *E. coli* acts on  $\alpha$ -L-arabinosides\*\*. The  $\alpha$ - $\beta$ -specificity of some other glycosidases seems to be more definite because they are used "for the purpose of providing information concerning the configuration of the glycosidic linkage in oligosaccharides" (Carbohydrates, pg. 488. Edited by W. Pigman, Academic Press, New York 1957). I agree with you that the evidence against your proposal is vague, and further work is needed.

I suppose that you will be very busy in Stockholm. If, however, you have time enough to visit Helsinki, our University would like to invite you. If you have not time enough to visit us but would like to see me, I should with great pleasure come to meet you in Stockholm at any date suitable for you.

With kind regards

*Olavi Mäkelä*  
Olavi Mäkelä

P.S. I have only just received funds for the endorsement of M<sup>rs</sup>. Mäkelä's visit to Stanford under the I.I.E. auspices. The papers did not know where to go at this University. I am sorry for the 6 weeks delay while they were lost.

*J. L.*

Finie

This is confusing but any arrangement you work out with NIH is satisfactory to us of course. \*

Certainly. I will fill our acceptance accordingly. \*

I doubt I will have time. I only suggested a ~~possible~~ possible address in case some urgent business had arisen

\* Will you need a visa endorsement from Stanford University?

\*\* keep in mind these are still anomorphous, having the same glycosidic configuration.  
 $\alpha$ -L-arabinose  $\approx$   $\beta$ -D-galactose